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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

John P. Franz et al.

Serial No.: 10/783,147

Filed: February 20, 2004

For: PROTECTION MECHANISM FOR  
FLOW INDUCING DEVICE

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Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Atty. Docket: 200308573-1  
NUHP:0212/FLE/SWA

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:	
May 12, 2004	<i>Carla Deblaw</i>
Date	Carla Deblaw

Sir:

**EXPLANATION REGARDING SUPPLEMENTAL  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a), it is respectfully requested that this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and that the listed references be considered by the Examiner and made of record. The Applicants are resubmitting the references listed under "Foreign Patent Documents" because only the abstracts of those references were available to the Applicants at the time of filing the original Information Disclosure Statement. Since that time, the Applicants have obtained complete copies of the references.

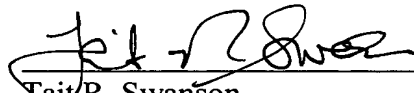
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, as an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b), or as a representation that no other possibly material information, as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b), exists.

Furthermore, the references listed on the attached Form 1449 are not to be construed as an admission that these references qualify as prior art as to the above-referenced application or any related application. Rather, these references are being presented for the Examiner's consideration without prejudice to the right to demonstrate that any of these references do not qualify as prior art should the Examiner choose to apply any of these references.

The following information is listed below in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98. Any explanation of non-English language documents contained in this Information Disclosure Statement is believed to constitute a concise explanation of the relevance of the listed reference as it is presently understood by the individual designated in § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the listed reference, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3). The foreign references enclosed with this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement relate generally to the field of fans.

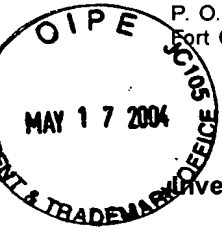
Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 12, 2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): John P. Franz et al.

Confirmation No.:

Application No.: 10/783,147

Examiner:

Filing Date: 02-20-2004

Group Art Unit:

Title: PROTECTION MECHANISM FOR FLOW INDUCING DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or  
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of national application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97 (c) together with either a:
  - ☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
  - ☐ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or  
(After the CFR 1.97 (b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97 (d) together with a:
  - ☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) or (2), and
  - ☐ a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).  
(Filed after final action, a notice of allowance, on or before payment of the issue fee)

Please charge to Deposit Account **08-2025** the sum of \$0.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **08-2025** pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

☒ Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449 - Information Disclosure Statement together with any required copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

☒ A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individuals(s) designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

- ☒ I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Date of Deposit: 05/12/04

OR

- ☐ I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of pages: \_\_\_\_\_

Typed Name: Carla Deblaw

Signature: Carla Deblaw

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Franz et al.

By Tait R. Swanson

Tait R. Swanson

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. **48,226**

Date: **05/12/04**

Telephone No.: **(281) 970-4545**



## PATENT APPLICATION

Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449

LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR  
APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

200308573-1

APPLICATION NO.

10/783,147

CONFIRMATION NO.

APPLICANT

John P. Franz, et al.

FILING DATE

02-20-2004

GROUP

## REFERENCE DESIGNATION

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	NAME	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figures Appear
	1A				
	1B				
	1C				
	1D				
	1E				
	1F				
	1G				
	1H				
	1I				
	1J				
	1K				

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT	Pages/Columns/Lines Where Relevant Passages/Figures Appear	Check if Translation attached
	1L	EP 1250035A1	10-16-2002	deBlanc et al.		
	1M	JP11138335A2	05-25-1999	Takayanagi Yoshiaki		
	1N	JP2003090299	03-28-2003	Izaki Kimisuke		
	1O	JP52034542A2	03-16-1977	Takahashi Masao		
	1P	JP62048996A2	03-03-1987	Hayashi Masanari		

## OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	1Q	
	1R	
	1S	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED